

MINUTES
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
TOWN HALL - 14 PARK PLACE - 3rd Floor
VERNON, CONNECTICUT

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
15 JUN -9 PM 12:59

June 2, 2015 - 7:30 PM

Deputy Mayor Steve Wakefield called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B) ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Pauline Schaefer, Brian Motola, Kim Appleyard, Steve Wakefield, Steve Peterson, Fred Lehmann, Bill Campbell, John Kopec, and Michael Winkler

Absent: Council Members Julie Clay and Ann Letendre

Entered During Meeting: Council Member Virginia Gingras at 7:31 PM

Also Present: Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Karen Daigle

C.) CITIZEN'S FORUM

Joe Tarzi, 155 West Main Street, Apt. 411, thanked Council Member Motola for directing him to Ken Kaplan, who has a team of volunteers, including some council members, cleaning up the Rockville section of town every Wednesday evening. Joe is now a proud volunteer and suggests a program such as C-Click for residents to report issues such as graffiti and trash.

7:31 PM Council Member Virginia Gingras entered.

Citizen's Forum closed at 7:34 PM

E.) PUBLIC HEARING – 7:35 PM

“PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO **“PROPOSED PROGRAMS FOR THE 2015 CONNECTICUT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE ACT”**.”

DEPUTY MAYOR STEVE WAKEFIELD CALLED THE PUBLIC HEARING TO ORDER

CLERK READ THE LEGAL NOTICE

DEPUTY MAYOR STEVE WAKEFIELD CALLED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Social Services Director, Marina Rodriguez, was available to answer questions from Council Members. Discussion took place.

DEPUTY MAYOR STEVE WAKEFIELD DECLARED THE PUBLIC HEARING – ADJOURNED AT 7:47 PM

(NOTE: Final action to be considered during **Section J** – NEW BUSINESS # 1)

D.) EXECUTIVE SESSION**EXECUTIVE SESSION #1**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Schaefer made the following motion to go into executive session:

MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES § 1-200(6) (B), HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS TAX APPEAL SETTLEMENT *CASE NO. 01-42217 (REG), UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT, SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK RE: AMES DEPARTMENT STORES INC., ET AL.,* AND INVITES JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR; AND TERRY HJARNE, TOWN OF VERNON COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO ATTEND.

Motion carried unanimously.

Out of executive session and in open session, Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec proposed a resolution that the Town Council authorizes the resolution of the tax claim from Ames Department Stores Inc. vs. Town of Vernon, through the Bankruptcy Court, in the amount of \$3,606.90, or more. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #2

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Peterson made the following motion to go into executive session:

MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES § 1-200(6) (B), HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION RELATIVE TO *MCMANAMAN v. TOWN OF VERNON CLAIM NO. 0105252*, AND INVITES THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO ATTEND: JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR; MICHAEL PURCARO, DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS AND FINANCE FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND ATTORNEY JONATHAN F. REIK OF THE LAW FIRM MCGANN, BARTLETT AND BROWN, LLC.

Motion carried unanimously.

Out of executive session and in open session, Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec proposed a resolution that settlement of a Worker's Compensation claim captioned Cynthia McManaman v. Town of Vernon, Board of Education arising from a date of injury of 2/21/2014, in the amount of \$7,500.00 is by this body approved, along with payment of a compromised medical lien to ConnectiCare in the amount of \$2,500.00, which lien arose in conjunction with treatment of injuries in the aforesaid claim, all subject to approval by a Worker's Compensation Commissioner of the State of Connecticut. Motion carried unanimously.

F.) PRESENTATIONS

None

G.) ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Peterson made a motion to approve the consent agenda items C1 – C11. Council Member Winkler pulled C1. Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to pass consent agenda items C2 – C11. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 2. Request for the approval Tax Refunds for Current Year.** (A copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue, to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated May 21, 2015 is included in the Council packet.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES (1) ONE PRIOR YEAR TAX REFUND FOR A TOTAL OF \$66.02 AND (8) EIGHT CURRENT YEAR TAX REFUNDS FOR A TOTAL OF \$4702.86, AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED MAY 21, 2015.

- C 3. Request the Town Council approves Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Karen L. Roy-Guglielmi, (U), 66 Indian Trail, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Human Services Advisory Commission, said term to commence July 1, 2015 and expires June 30, 2017.** (A copy of Ms. Roy-Guglielmi's resume is included for Town Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER XV, SEC. 3, 05-02-1989
TOWN RESOLUTION VOL. 24, PAGE 382 AS AMENDED /VOL. 37 PAGE 266 AND TOWN COUNCIL RESOLUTION DATED 02-19-2002, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REAPPOINTMENT OF KAREN L. ROY-GUGLIELMI, (U), 66 INDIAN TRAIL, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM BEGINNING JULY 1, 2015 AND EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2017.

- C 4. Request the Town Council approves Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Terilynn Rogers, (D), 26 White Street, Rockville, Connecticut as a regular member of the**

Human Services Advisory Commission, said term to commence July 1, 2015 and expires June 30, 2017. (A copy of Ms. Roger's resume is included for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER XV, SEC. 3, 05-02-1989

TOWN RESOLUTION VOL. 24, PAGE 382 AS AMENDED /VOL. 37 PAGE 266 AND TOWN COUNCIL RESOLUTION DATED 02-19-2002, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF TERILYN ROGERS, (D), 26 WHITE STREET, ROCKVILLE, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM BEGINNING JULY 1, 2015 AND EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2017.

- C 5. Request the Town Council approves Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of the Honorable Judge O. James Purnell, 14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Human Services Advisory Commission, said term to commence July 1, 2015 and expires June 30, 2017.** (No resume attached. Judge Purnell serves as the Ellington Judge of Probate.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER XV, SEC. 3, 05-02-1989

TOWN RESOLUTION VOL. 24, PAGE 382 AS AMENDED /VOL. 37 PAGE 266 AND TOWN COUNCIL RESOLUTION DATED 02-19-2002, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF THE HONORABLE JUDGE O. JAMES PURNELL, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM BEGINNING JULY 1, 2015 AND EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2017.

- C 6. Request the Town Council approves Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of William Campbell, Town Council Member, 14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Human Services Advisory Commission, said term to commence on July 1, 2015 and expires on November 8, 2015.** (No resume attached. Mr. Campbell is a Town Council Member for the Town of Vernon.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER XV, SEC. 3, 05-02-1989

TOWN RESOLUTION VOL. 24, PAGE 382 AS AMENDED /VOL. 37 PAGE 266 AND TOWN COUNCIL RESOLUTION DATED 02-19-2002, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REAPPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM CAMPBELL, TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM BEGINNING JULY 1, 2015 AND EXPIRES ON NOVEMBER 8, 2015).

- C 7. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Michael Winkler, Town Council Member, 14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Human Services Advisory Commission, said term to commence on July 1, 2015 and expires on November 8, 2015.** (No resume attached. Mr. Winkler is a Town Council Member for the Town of Vernon).

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER XV, SEC. 3, 05-02-1989

TOWN RESOLUTION VOL. 24, PAGE 382 AS AMENDED /VOL. 37 PAGE 266 AND TOWN COUNCIL RESOLUTION DATED 02-19-2002, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE REAPPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL WINKLER, TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER, 14 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM BEGINNING JULY 1, 2015 AND EXPIRES ON NOVEMBER 8, 2015.

- C 8. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Carole Guttman, (U), 6 Lantern Lane, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Board of Assessment Appeals, said term to commence on July 1, 2015 and expires June 30, 2018.** (See Ms. Guttman's resume attached for Council review.)

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO C.G.S. § 7-105 AND CHARTER CHAPTER IX, SECTION 3, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF CAROLE GUTTMAN, (U), 6 LANTERN LANE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE BOARD

OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2015 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2018.

- C 9. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Joseph Grabinski, (R), 623 Dart Hill Road, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Board of Assessment Appeals, said term to commence on July 1, 2015 and expires June 30, 2018. (See Mr. Grabinski's resume attached for Council review.)**

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO C.G.S. § 7-105 AND CHARTER CHAPTER IX, SECTION 3, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE MAYOR'S REAPPOINTMENT OF JOSEPH GRABINSKI, (R), 623 DART HILL ROAD, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS FOR A TERM BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2015 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2018.

- C 10. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Bruce P. Skivington, (U), 3 Eleanor Street Extension, Vernon, Connecticut, as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, said appointment to commence on July 1, 2015 and expires on June 30, 2020. (Mr. Skivington's resume is included for Council review.)**

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO VERNON'S CHARTER CHAPTER VIII, SEC. 2 & 6; THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF BRUCE P. SKIVINGTON, (U), 3 ELEANOR STREET EXTENSION, VERNON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, SAID APPOINTMENT COMMENCES ON JULY 1, 2015 AND EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2020.

- C 11. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of Wes Shorts, (R), 109 Hany Lane, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, said appointment to commence on July 1, 2015 and expires on June 30, 2020. (Mr. Shorts' resume is included for Council review.)**

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO VERNON'S CHARTER CHAP. XV, SEC. 3; EST. 03-02-1982, THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES

MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF WES SHORTS, (R), 109 HANY LANE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SAID TERM TO BEGIN ON JULY 1, 2015 AND EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2018.

H.) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS

- C 1. Request the Town Council approve budget amendments #38, #39, #40, #41, #42, #43, #44, #45, #46 and #47, as provided by Finance Officer James Luddecke on the budget amendment forms attached to this agenda.**

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUESTS #38, #39, #40, #41, #42, #43, #44, #45, #46 AND #47 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 AS OUTLINED IN THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS PROVIDED BY FINANCE OFFICER, JAMES M. LUDDECKE.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to approve the consent agenda items C1. Finance Director, James Luddecke was available to answer questions. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

- I.) PENDING BUSINESS
None

J.) NEW BUSINESS

- 1) **Request the Town Council take action relative to the Public Hearing held earlier relative to the 2015 Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (CTNAA) funding.** (See memorandum from Marina Rodriguez, Director of the Vernon Social Services Department relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL DOES HEREBY APPROVE THE 2015 NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE ACT LIST OF PROGRAMS AS ATTACHED.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to approve the 2015 Neighborhood Assistance Act List of Programs. Motion carried unanimously.

- 2) **Request the Town Council authorize Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to execute documents relative to the Main Street Bridge over the Tankerhoosen with the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation.** (See memorandum dated May 28, 2015 to Mayor Daniel

A. Champagne and the Vernon Town Council relative to the State/Town Agreement for Design of the Main Street Bridge over the Tankerhoosen River included for Council review.)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

PURSUANT TO THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, CHAPTER 5, § 5 TITLED "GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES", BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE HONORABLE DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE, MAYOR, IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT FOR "***THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONTRACT PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE REHABILITATION OR REPLACEMENT OF THE MAIN STREET BRIDGE OVER THE TANKERHOUSEN***", WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec proposed a resolution to authorize Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to sign the agreement for "The Development of Contract Plans, Specifications and Estimates in conjunction with the Main Street Bridge over The Tankerhoosen". Motion carried unanimously.

- 3) **Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Michelle Hill to the position of Director of the Youth Services Bureau.** (See memorandum dated May 28, 2015 from Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to the Vernon Town Council and John D. Ward, Town Administrator relative to same. Also included is the resume of Ms. Hill and the job description for the Director position.)

PROPOSED MOTION

THE TOWN COUNCIL , PURSUANT TO CHAPTER X, SEC. 3, AND CHAPTER XI, SEC. 1,3, AND 21 OF THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF MS. MICHELLE HILL, TO THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF THE YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU FOR THE TOWN OF VERNON.

Deputy Mayor Steve Wakefield pulled this motion.

- 4) **Request the Town Council authorize Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to execute the necessary documents for application and receipt of the YSB cost sharing funds from the State Department of Education in the amount of \$23,238.00.** (See memorandum from Alan Slobodien, Director of the Vernon YSB relative to same.)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE TO

EXECUTE THE NECESSARY PAPERWORK TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR AND RECEIVE YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU COST-SHARING FUNDS FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN AN AMOUNT OF \$23,238.00.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec proposed a resolution to authorize Mayor Daniel A. Champagne make application for and receive Youth Services Bureau cost-sharing funds from the State Department of Education in an amount of \$23,238.00. Motion carried unanimously.

- 5) **Request the Town Council authorize Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to execute the necessary paperwork to make application for and receive Youth Services Bureau Enhancement Grant funds from the State Department of Education in the amount of \$6111.00.** (See memorandum from Alan Slobodien, Director, of the Vernon Youth Services relative to same.)

PROPOSED MOTION

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY PAPERWORK TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR AND RECEIVE YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU ENHANCEMENT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN AN AMOUNT OF \$6111.00.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec proposed a resolution to authorize Mayor Daniel A. Champagne make application for and receive Youth Services Bureau enhancement grant funds from the State Department of Education in an amount of \$6,111.00. Youth Services Director, Alan Slobodien was available to answer questions. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

- K.) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES
None
- L.) ACTION ON ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED
None
- M.) IDENTIFICATION/ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to add additional agenda item #1 as New Business #6. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS #6

- 1) **Request the Town Council authorize Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to execute documents relative to the Main Street Bridge over the Tankerhoosen between the Town of Vernon and Dewberry Engineers Inc., for Engineering Services.**

PROPOSED MOTION

PURSUANT TO THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, CHAPTER 5, § 5 TITLED "GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES", BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE HONORABLE DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE, MAYOR, IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF VERNON AND DEWBERRY ENGINEERS INC., FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES REQUIRED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE REHABILITATION OR REPLACEMENT OF THE MAIN STREET BRIDGE (BRIDGE NO. 04575) OVER THE TANKERHOOPEN RIVER BY DEWBERRY ENGINEERS INC.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to authorize Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to sign the agreement between the Town of Vernon and Dewberry Engineers Inc. for services in conjunction with the Main Street Bridge (Bridge No. 04575) over the Tankerhoosen River. Town Engineer, David Smith was available to answer questions. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion to add additional agenda item #2. Motion carried unanimously.

2) Request the Town Council approve budget amendment #48 for fiscal year 2014-2015 as provided by Finance Officer James M. Luddecke.

PROPOSED MOTION

RESOLVED, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST #48, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 AS OUTLINED IN THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FORM PROVIDED BY THE FINANCE OFFICER, JAMES M. LUDDECKE.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Kopec made a motion approve budget amendment #48. Finance Director, James Luddecke was available to answer questions. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously

N.) DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

None

O.) ADOPTION OF MINUTES

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING **MAY 19, 2015** AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Kopec, made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the regular town council meeting of May 19, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

P.) INFORMATIONAL ITEMS, PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS, ETC. NOT REQUIRING ACTION

- 1. Monthly Report – Vernon Police Department for April, 2015, as submitted by Captain of Police, Stephen M. Clark.**
- 2. Cancellation Notice for the June 16, 2015 Town Council meeting.**
- 3. Invitation to the Tree Planting in honor of former Mayor Marie Herbst. June 2, 2015, 6:30 PM in Central Park. (Just prior to the Town Council Meeting scheduled for 7:30 PM.)**

Adjourn (8:52 PM)

Council Member Schaefer, seconded by Council Member Motola, made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen C. Daigle
Recording Secretary